IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A variably insulated system, comprising:

a heat generating core;

a heat sink; and

a heat responsive coupling member configured to selectively cause relative movement of said heat generating core or said heat sink to provide contact between said heat generating core and said heat sink at a predetermined temperature of said heat generating core such that heat from said heat generating core is dissipated by said heat sink when said heat generating core and said heat sink are in contact;

wherein said heat responsive coupling member automatically responds to said heat generating core reaching said predetermined temperature and causes said relative movement and contact between said heat generating core and said heat sink.

2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said predetermined temperature comprises an operating temperature of said heat generating core.

3. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said heat responsive coupling member comprises a shape memory alloy.

4. (original) The system of claim 3, wherein said heat responsive coupling member further comprises a spring coupled to said shape memory alloy.

5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said coupling member comprises a bimetallic strip.

6. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said coupling member comprises a machine actuated member and a sensor.

7. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said heat generating core comprises a fuel cell system.

8. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein said heat generating core comprises a solid oxide fuel cell.

9. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said heat sink comprises a metallic material.

10. (original) The system of claim 9, wherein said metallic material comprises one of copper or aluminum.

11. (previously presented) An electrochemical system, comprising:

an electrochemical core;

a heat sink; and

a heat responsive coupling member configured to selectively cause relative movement of said electrochemical core or said heat sink to provide contact between said electrochemical core and said heat sink at a predetermined temperature of said electrochemical core such that

heat from said electrochemical core is dissipated by said heat sink when said electrochemical core and said heat sink are in contact.

12. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein said predetermined temperature comprises an operating temperature of said electrochemical core.

13. (original) The system of claim 11 wherein said heat responsive coupling member comprises a shape memory alloy.

14. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, further comprising a biasing member configured to provide a bias physically separating said heat generating core and said heat sink, wherein said heat responsive coupling member overcomes said bias to bring said heat generating core and said heat sink into contact.

15. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein said coupling member comprises a bimetallic strip.

16. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein said coupling member comprises a machine actuated member and a sensor.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said machine actuated member comprises a solenoid.

18. (previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein said shape memory alloy is formed as a wire which is strung between a plurality of posts on opposing members corresponding respectively to said electrochemical core and said heat sink.

19. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, further comprising an evacuated space between said heat generating core and said heat sink that increases the thermal insulation of said heat generating core when said heat generating core and said heat sink are not in contact.

20. (previously presented) The system of claim 11, further comprising a fan that provides a varying air flow over said heat sink in response to a varying need to remove heat from said heat sink.

21. (previously presented) A solid oxide fuel cell system comprising:

a solid oxide fuel cell;

a heat sink; and

a heat responsive coupling member configured to selectively cause relative movement of said heat generating core or said heat sink to provide contact between said solid oxide fuel cell and said heat sink at a predetermined temperature of said solid oxide fuel cell such that heat from said fuel cell is dissipated by said heat sink when said fuel cell and said heat sink are in contact.

22. (previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said predetermined temperature of said solid oxide fuel cell comprises an operating temperature of said solid oxide fuel cell.

23. (previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said heat responsive coupling member comprises a shape memory alloy.

24. (previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said heat responsive coupling member comprises a bimetallic strip.

25. (previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said heat responsive coupling member comprises a machine actuated member and a sensor.

26. (previously presented) The system of claim 21, further comprising a biasing member configured to provide a bias physically separating said fuel cell and said heat sink, wherein said heat responsive coupling member overcomes said bias to bring said fuel cell and said heat sink into contact.

27. (previously presented) The system of claim 23, wherein said shape memory alloy is formed as a wire which is strung between a plurality of posts on opposing members corresponding respectively to said fuel cell and said heat sink.

28-40. (cancelled)

41. (currently amended) A variably insulated system, comprising:

a heat generating core;

a means for dissipating heat from said heat generating core; and

a means for selectively causing relative movement between said heat generating core and means for dissipating heat to provide contact between said means for dissipating heat and said heat generating core at a predetermined temperature of said heat generating core such that heat from said heat generating core is dissipated by said means for dissipating heat when said heat generating core and said means for dissipating heat are in contact;

wherein said means for causing relative movement automatically respond to said heat generating core reaching said predetermined temperature and thereupon cause said relative movement and contact between said heat generating core and said means for dissipating heat.

42. (original) The variably insulated system of claim 41, further comprising means for cooling said means for dissipating heat.

43. (previously presented) The variably insulated system of claim 42, wherein said means for cooling comprise a fan that provides a varying air flow over said means for dissipating heat in response to a varying need to remove heat from said means for dissipating heat.

44. (original) The variably insulated system of claim 41, wherein said heat generating core comprises a solid oxide fuel cell.

45. (previously presented) The variably insulated system of claim 41, further comprising a means for biasing configured to provide a bias that physically separates said heat generating core and said means for dissipating heat, wherein said means for selectively causing relative movement overcomes said bias to bring said heat generating core and said means for dissipating heat into contact at said predetermined temperature.

46. (previously presented) The variably insulated system of claim 41, wherein said means for selectively causing relative movement comprises a shape memory alloy formed as a wire which is strung between a plurality of posts on opposing members corresponding respectively to said heat generating core and said means for dissipating heat.

47. (previously presented) The variably insulated system of claim 45, wherein said means for biasing comprise a spring.

48. (previously presented) The variably insulated system of claim 41, wherein said means for causing relative movement comprise a bimetallic strip.

49. (previously presented) The variably insulated system of claim 41, wherein said means for causing relative movement comprise a machine actuated member and a sensor.

50. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a biasing member configured to provide a bias physically separating said heat generating core and said heat sink, wherein said heat responsive coupling member overcomes said bias to bring said heat generating core and said heat sink into contact.

51. (previously presented) The system of claim 50, wherein said biasing member comprises a spring.

52. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising an evacuated space between said heat generating core and said heat sink that increases the thermal insulation of said heat generating core when said heat generating core and said heat sink are not in contact.

53. (previously presented) The system of claim 3, wherein said shape memory alloy is formed as a wire which is strung between a plurality of posts on opposing members corresponding respectively to said heat generating core and said heat sink.

54. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a fan that provides a varying air flow over said heat sink in response to a varying need to remove heat from said heat sink.

55. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein said machine actuated member comprises a solenoid.